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A.D. 1800 . . . . . N<sup>o</sup> 2448.

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S P E C I F I C A T I O N

OF

JAMES POTTS.

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ARTIFICIAL ARM AND LEG.

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L O N D O N :

PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
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A.D. 1800 . . . . . N° 2448.

## Artificial Arm and Leg.

### POTTS' SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, JAMES POTTS, of Belford, in the County of Northumberland, Clock and Watch Maker, send greeting.

5 WHEREAS His most Excellent Majesty King George the Third did, by His Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Great Britain, bearing date at Westminster, the Eighteenth day of November, in the forty-first year of His reign, give and grant unto me, the said James Potts, His especial licence that I, the said James Potts, during the term of years therein mentioned, should  
10 and lawfully might use, exercise, and vend, within England, Wales, and the Town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, my Invention of "AN ARTIFICIAL ARM AND LEG UPON A NEW OR IMPROVED CONSTRUCTION;" in which said Letters Patent there is contained a proviso, obliging me, the said James Potts, by an instrument in writing under my hand and seal, to cause a particular description of the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed,  
15 to be inrolled in His Majesty's High Court of Chancery within one calendar month after the date of the said recited Letters Patent, as in and by the same (relation being thereunto had) may more fully and at large appear.

NOW KNOW YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I, the said James Potts, do hereby declare that my said Invention of an artificial arm



*Potts' Invention of an Artificial Leg and Arm upon a New Construction.*

and leg on a new construction, is described in the hereunder Drawing and description thereof.

In witness whereof, I, the said James Potts, have hereunto set my hand and seal, this Eleventh day of December, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred.

5

Fig. 1, a box or tube, made of bend leather, near the shape of the stump and properly fitted to Fig. 2. Fig. 2, a wooden joint about three inches thick; I, I, the stops to prevent the joint going beyond the streight; K, the upper lock; H, the joint pin hole. Fig. 3, a piece of wood from the joint of the knee to the virl of the ball; it is made to imitate the bone of the leg; M, the 10 under lock of the knee; L, the joint pin hole; O, the virl and ball. Fig. 4, a foot in two halves, made of wood, something like the natural foot, and to allow stuffing; S, S, the sockets which are brass, and made to inclose the ball; P, P, holes for the screw nails with nuts; R, the toe joint. Fig. 5, a piece of wood shaped like the toes, and jointed to have the motions of the fore foot. 15 Fig. 6, a skeleton of a leg without stuffing. Fig. 7, a leg finished for the left side, as all those pieces are, and is designed for an amputation above the knee, is secured by a strap to the body, which strap is fastened at the back of leg, is passed over the opposite shoulder, and is buckled to a short strap before, when the amputation is below the knee, and the use of natural knee joint saved; 20 the construction of the ankle and foot is exactly the same, with a leather tube to receive the stump, when for the right side the shape of the skeleton must be altered according to the shape of the leg. It is necessary that the inside of the tube be stuffed as well for the ease of the wearer as to prevent the leather from rotting with the sweat of the body; the outside must be stuffed to 25 prevent the breeches from wearing; the whole leg must be stuffed to bring it up to the natural shape and give it the appearance of flesh; the knee joint must not be so nicely made as not to allow some stuffing, to prevent noise in walking, and must be perfectly flexible, that the leg may fall, as it is impelled by its own gravity, likewise to have full liberty from the joint pin 30 hole, which is made long on purpose to let the locks pass each other when the weight of the body is off the leg, so that it may follow naturally as the person walks; the joint pin is a plain screw nail with a nut. The ankle must be harder stuffed to retain its shape, and two pieces of wood put into the stuffing to imitate the ankle bones. The sockets must be so much cut away 35 as to allow of all the natural motions to the foot, so that it may yield any way that it is impell'd and make the step secure; the toe piece is fastened to the foot by a joint pin; the leg must be covered with leather and quilted to keep

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*Potts' Invention of an Artificial Leg and Arm upon a New Construction.*

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it to the shape, no springs is necessary in the whole leg, excepting some small ones at the ankle, to make the stocking appear in natural wrinkles. The knee pan is formed by the stuffing. The arm is made exactly upon the same principle, with a flexible joint at the elbow that it may swing in walking.  
 5 The wrist and finger joints, balls and sockets, and stuffed, and the hand painted of a flesh colour, and fastened to the body by a strap over the opposite shoulder. The stuffing of the leg may either be wool or flax, and the skeleton made as ruff as possible, and likewise quilted when made exactly to the shape.

10

JAMES POTTS. (L.S.)

AND BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the same Eleventh day of December in the year above mentioned, the aforesaid James Potts came before our Lord the King in His Chancery, and acknowledged the Specification aforesaid, and all and every thing therein contained, in form above written.  
 15 And also the Specification aforesaid was stamped according to the tenor of the Statute in that case made and provided.

Inrolled the Seventeenth day of December, in the year above written.

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LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
 Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1856.

THOS ADAMS, a Master Extraordinary  
 of the High Court of Chancery.





FIG. 1.

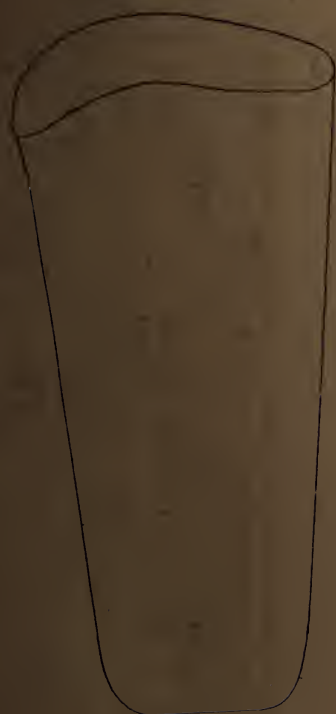


FIG. 2.

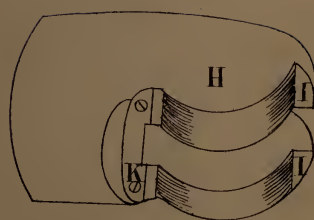


FIG. 4.

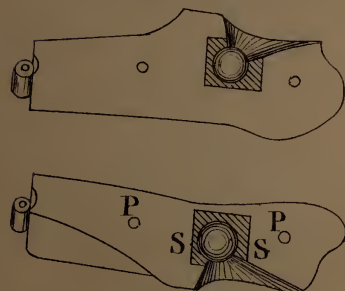


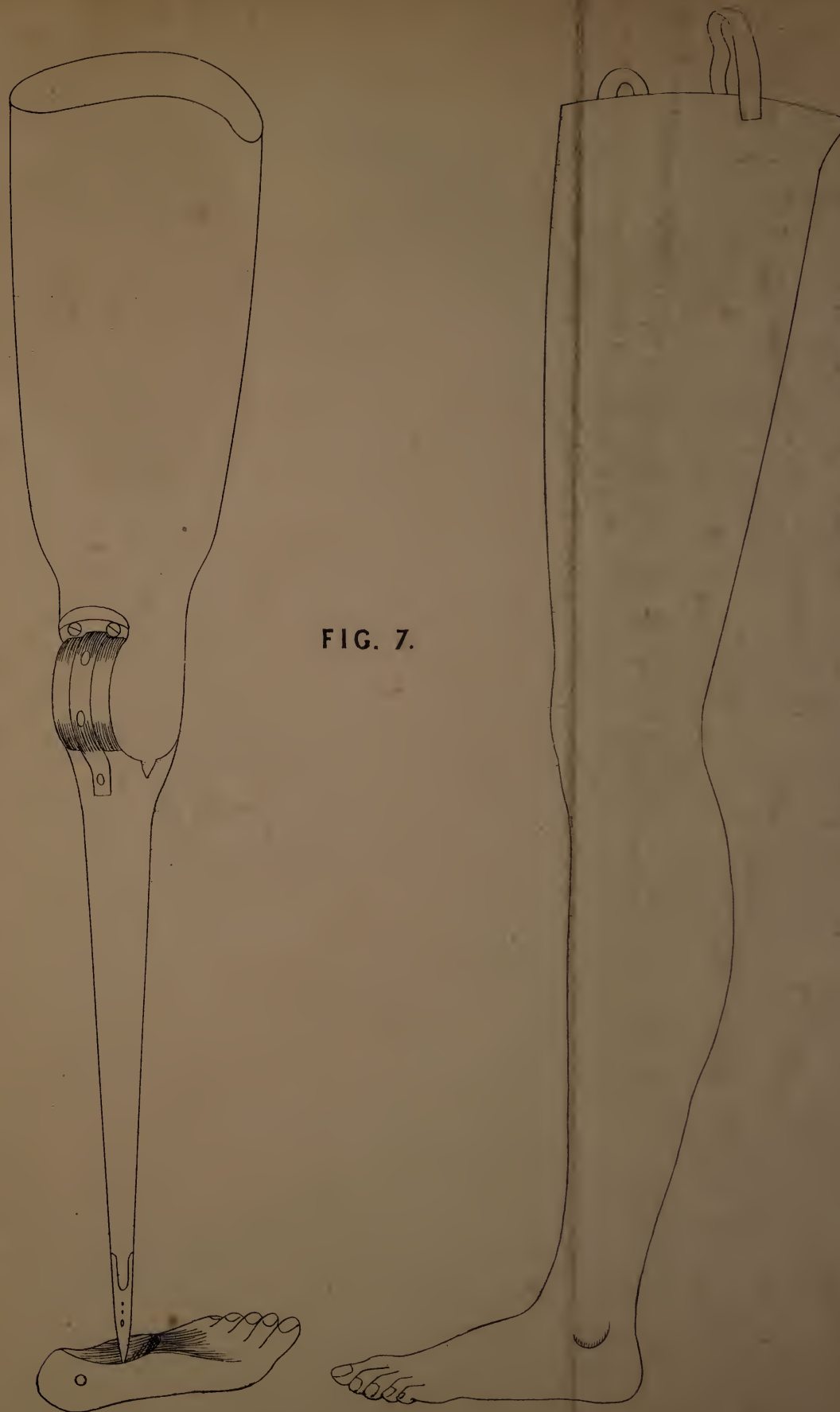
FIG. 3.



FIG. 5.



FIG. 7.



*The enrolled drawing is colored.*

Drawn on Stone by Malby & Sons

